REMARKS

Applicant certainly appreciates the allowance of Claims 10-15 and the suggestions offered by the Examiner to overcome the objections to the other claims.

Every embodiment of Applicant's invention includes a limit stop having two elements that are formed from different materials and are discontinuous. See, e.g., elements 35, 37 in Figure 2; elements 65, 69 (Figures 3-6); elements 89, 91 (Figures 7-10); elements 535, 539 (Figure 11); elements 235, 239 (Figure 12); elements 335, 339 (Figure 13); and elements 435, 421 (Figure 14). In contrast, every embodiment in the cited prior art reference, *Misso*, discloses a single, continuous, element having inner and outer portions that are formed from the same material.

Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 16 were rewritten to distinguish *Misso* based on the separate elements and materials of the present invention. For example, Claim 1 now requires the outer portion of the impact member to be "formed from a material that differs from the damping material of the collar." Since *Misso's* impact member is formed from a single material, Claim 1 is not anticipated by that reference. Similarly, Claim 16 was rewritten to require the linear element to be "formed from a material that differs from a material of the nonlinear element such that the linear element is discontinuous with the nonlinear element." Claim 16 is allowable over *Misso* since that reference shows a continuous element formed a single material.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application and claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No fee for an extension of time or other fees are believed to be required. However, in the event that one or more fees are required, please charge them to **Hitachi Global Storage Technologies' Deposit Account Number 50-2587.**

Respectfully submitted,

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